

REMARKS

This paper is a preliminary amendment in the above-titled application, filed herewith as a divisional of pending U.S. Application Serial No. 09/842,523 (the "parent application"), filed April 25, 2001, now allowed, which claims the benefit of FR 00/05346, filed April 25, 2000.

In the parent application, a restriction requirement was issued between the process claims of Group I (claims 1-6 and 16) and the product claims of Group II (claims 7-15). Claims 1-6 and 16 were elected in the parent application, now allowed.

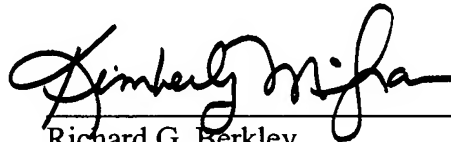
In the present application, applicant continues prosecution of the product claims of group II. By this amendment, original claims 1-6 and 16 have been canceled. Claims 9, 10, and 11 have been amended so as to remove multiple dependencies. Claims 17-23 are added. Support for claim 17 can be found in claims 10 and 2 as originally filed. Support for claim 18 can be found in claims 11 and 2 as originally filed. Support for claim 19 can be found in claims 12, 10 and 2 as originally filed. Support for claim 20 can be found in claims 13, 11 and 2 as originally filed. Support for claim 21 can be found in claims 14, 10 and 2 as originally filed. Support for claim 22 can be found in claims 14, 11 and 2 as originally filed. Support for claim 23 can be found in claims 9 and 8 as originally filed.

No new matter has been added and no narrowing of claim scope has occurred as a result of these amendments. Prompt allowance of pending claims 7-15 and 17-23 is earnestly solicited.

Applicant does not believe that any fee is required in connection with the submission of this paper. However, should any fee be required, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit or any overpayments made, to Deposit Account 02-4377. Duplicate copies of this sheet are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

By:



Richard G. Berkley
Patent Office Reg. No. 25,465

Kimberly J. McGraw
Patent Office Reg. No. 50,994
212-408-2502 (direct dial)

30 Rockefeller Plaza
44th Floor
New York, NY 10012-4498
212-408-2500

Attorneys for Applicants